

Board of County Commissioners

INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE: June 10, 2003
TO: Lillian Bennett, Assistant to the County Administrator
FROM: Johnny Pompey, Director, Fleet Management
SUBJECT: Compact Vehicles

During the budget review in the month of May, staff was directed to determine the net cost effect of purchasing smaller vehicles and pick-ups.

Currently Leon County has surplused and sold all full size V/8 powered 4 door sedans. These vehicles were replaced with mid-sized sports utility vehicles powered by fuel efficient V-6 engines.

The most fuel efficient vehicles are identified as a hybrid cars. These units run on gas/electric, delivers 50 miles or more per gallon, emits very low levels of smog and doesn't require routine recharges.

Honda 4 door	Honda Insite 2 door
5 passenger capacity	2 passenger capacity
MSRP 20,010.00	MSRP 19,800.00
MPG 41-48 29 0/0	MPG 51 - 56

It should be noted that the above mention units are front wheel drive. This design usually requires significant more drive train repair (transmission constant velocity drive shaft etc.). Due to the fact that Leon County employees would operate the unit in a variety of conditions coupled with the relativity unknown maintenance cost this unit would be defined as a work in progress.

The acquisition cost of small units and full size units:

Ford Taurus	Ford Crown Victoria
mid-size 4 door sedan	full size 4 door sedan
\$14,473.00	\$18,626.00
\$ 286.00 shop manuals	\$ 256.00 shop manuals
<u>\$ 83.00 rain shields</u>	<u>\$ 83.00 rain shields</u>
\$14,842.00	\$18,965.00

Average MPG 23.50

Average MPG 22.00

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Ford Ranger 4 X 2 V/6
\$11,070.00
\$ 178.00 tilt wheel
\$ 370.00 locking differential
\$ 83.00 rain shields
\$ 450.00 tool box
\$ 256.00 shop manuals
\$12,407.00

Average MPG 19.50

Ford F150 4 X 2 V/6
\$11,935.00
N/R tilt wheel
\$ 285.00 locking differential
\$ 83.00 rain shields
\$ 463.00 tool box
\$ 297.00 shop manuals
\$13,063.00

Average MPG 18.00

Acquisition cost of small and mid-size sports utility vehicles:

Escape 4 X 4
\$18,974.00
N/R locking differential
\$ 83.00 rain shields
\$ 297.00 shop manuals
\$19,354.00

Average MPG 22.00

Explorer 4 X 2
\$19,328.00
\$ 290.00 locking differential
\$ 83.00 rain shields
\$ 297.00 shop manuals
\$19,998.00

Average MPG 18.00

Cost Differentials

Mid-size 4 door sedan
\$14,842.00 (\$4,123.00)

Full size 4 door sedan
\$18,965.00

¼ ton Ranger
\$12,407.00 (\$656.00)

½ ton F150
\$13,063.00

Small size SUV Escape
\$19,354.00 (\$644.00)

Mid-size SUV Explorer 4 X 2
\$19,998.00

Upon review of the cost comparison of the large versus small vehicles, a significant difference exists between the large and mid-size 4 door sedans. The cost differential is \$4,123.00. Leon County has discontinued the practice of purchasing that category of vehicle some years back.

This review recognized that a small savings does exist with the small and full size pick-up of \$656.00 and the small and mid-size SUV of \$644.00. The largest difference exists between the ¼ ton ranger and the small or mid-size SUV. The savings are \$6,947.00 and \$7,591.00 respectively. It should be noted that the ¼ ton pick up is a convention cab model with a bench seat. The basic capacity is two passengers. A tool box is recommended for storage in all pick up classes.

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Consideration should be given to the apparatus required by different classification of drivers currently utilizing SUVs. For example, building inspectors typically transport laptop computers, printers, cameras, plans, code books, reference material, tools, notice of violation, corrective notices, cones, pressure testers, first aid kits, fire extinguishers and other items not specifically mentioned. These items must be protected from theft and weather conditions. The Fleet Director will conduct on site field visits with drivers in the affected classes to determine space needs and requirements. This process will promote the most efficient and cost-effective methodology for purchasing vehicles for Leon County.

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Additional items to consider:

1. Limit start up to 7 minutes or less.
2. Avoid excessive idling.
3. Plan trips in the same geographical area. Inventory and provide all needed supplies.
4. Practice fuel conservation driving habits. Avoid wide open throttle starting process.
5. Utilize high intensive strobe lighting when on the job site and poor sight distances areas.
6. Continue to replace vehicles and equipment on schedule. *on time.*
7. Encourage pool vehicles usage instead of permanent individual vehicle assignment.

These practices are recommended to provide cost reduction. To provide an accurate cost saving the Fleet Division will continue to monitor the established spending trends. Upon implementation of the above mentioned ideas a comparison will be made.

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